

House Resolution 1601

By: Representatives Powell of the 29th and Kidd of the 141st

A RESOLUTION

1 Remembering and honoring the life of Tom Mishou; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, on August 24, 2009, the State of Georgia lost one of its most dedicated public
3 servants with the passing of Tom Mishou; and

4 WHEREAS, Tom grew up in Minnesota, where he was a high school classmate of Jim Janos
5 who, after a term of service as a Navy SEAL, became a professional wrestler and later
6 Governor of Minnesota under the name of Jesse Ventura; and

7 WHEREAS, after a stint in the United States Marine Corps, Tom found his way to Georgia
8 and began a lifelong fascination with politics and the political process; and

9 WHEREAS, he contributed greatly to the government of this state through the expenditure
10 of his time and many talents as a multipurpose staff member for three secretaries of state,
11 Max Cleland, Lewis Massey, and Cathy Cox; and

12 WHEREAS, he is best known as Georgia's long-time executive director of the Georgia
13 Boxing Commission and its successor agency, the Georgia Athletic and Entertainment
14 Commission, where he built a reputation for fairness and firmness; and

15 WHEREAS, his work for the various Secretaries of State under whom he served won him
16 praise from all who dealt with him and his helpfulness and fairness went a great distance in
17 enhancing the perception of Georgia as a consumer-friendly state; and

18 WHEREAS, after retiring from state government, he worked as a civilian defense contractor
19 in Iraq until health issues made it necessary for him to return home to Georgia; and

20 WHEREAS, his trademark bowtie and welcoming smile were always paired with a good
21 story about politics for anyone who had the pleasure to be in his company; and

22 WHEREAS, he was always amazing in his knowledge and recollection of political events
23 and personalities and in his analysis of elections and politics; and

24 WHEREAS, his competence and talents were exceeded only by his heart and humanity; and

25 WHEREAS, his unparalleled organizational and leadership talents, his remarkable patience
26 and diplomacy, his keen sense of vision, his dedication to whatever task he was assigned, and
27 his acute sensitivity to the needs of the citizens of his community and state earned him the
28 respect and admiration of his colleagues and associates; and

29 WHEREAS, the passing of this generous, kind, and devoted individual leaves an unfillable
30 void in the hearts and lives of all who knew him.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
32 the members of this body join together to express their deepest regret at the passing of Tom
33 Mishou and extend their most sincere condolences to his family and friends.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
35 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the family of Tom Mishou.